

law. Ms. Berenson was recently convicted of treason by a military tribunal in Peru and is currently imprisoned in Yanamayo prison. The lack of due process at her trial leaves the question of her involvement in illegal activity unanswered.

We are particularly concerned that Ms. Berenson did not have an open trial; was not allowed to cross-examine witnesses or challenge evidence; and was tried in a military court by judges whose identities were concealed. Such practices preclude a fair trial. We urge you to take steps to ensure that she is retried before a civilian court which upholds internationally recognized rights of due process.

We note that Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Peru on April 28, 1978, stipulates that:

"Everyone shall be entitled to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law.

"[and is entitled] to examine, or have examined, the witnesses against him and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on his behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against him."

In addition, it appears inappropriate to try civilians in a military court. We are aware that the Peruvian Government gave assurances to Assistant Secretary of State Alexander Watson over two years ago that civilians would no longer be tried in military courts.

We find it troubling that during the trial of Ms. Berenson, the Peruvian judicial system failed to uphold these and other international standards. The Constitution of the Republic of Peru states that:

"It is the duty of the President of the Republic to obey and ensure obedience to the Constitution and all treaties, laws, and other legal provisions. (Article 118)"

While we make no claims concerning Ms. Berenson's alleged guilt, we ask that you take the necessary steps to provide an open and fair proceeding in a civilian court. Indeed, the entire Peruvian judicial system should be brought in line with the solemn international commitments made by the Peruvian Government.

We thank you for your attention to our request.

Sincerely,

James M. Jeffords, Alfonse M. D'Amato,
Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Christopher J. Dodd, Ben Nighthorse Campbell,
Carl Levin, Paul Simon, John D. Rockefeller IV, Claiborne Pell, Carol Moseley-Braun, Dianne Feinstein, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Patrick J. Leahy, Dale Bumpers, Daniel K. Inouye, Barbara A. Mikulski, David Pryor, Wendell H. Ford, John F. Kerry.

Mr. HELMS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, inasmuch as the amendment now pending by Senator DURBIN has been approved by both sides, the pending amendment modifies the amendment relating to Peru. There being no objection to that amendment, I propose that it be accepted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 385) was agreed to.

Mr. HELMS. I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, June 13, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,354,082,862,951.39. (Five trillion, three hundred fifty-four billion, eighty-two million, eight hundred sixty-two thousand, nine hundred fifty-one dollars and thirty-nine cents)

Twenty-five years ago, June 13, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$428,345,000,000 (Four hundred twenty-eight billion, three hundred forty-five million) which reflects a debt increase of nearly \$5 trillion—\$4,925,737,862,951.39 (Four trillion, nine hundred twenty-five billion, seven hundred thirty-seven million, eight hundred sixty-two thousand, nine hundred fifty-one dollars and thirty-nine cents) during the past 25 years.

HONORING THE UTAH JAZZ

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Utah Jazz, who just completed their most successful season in franchise history. After clinching the Western Conference Championship with a last-second, heart-stopping shot at the buzzer, they competed for the NBA title against the talented Chicago Bulls with grit and sheer determination. Throughout this season, our Utah Jazz have displayed tremendous skill, determination, strength, and character to forge ahead and accomplish what very few thought they could do. This team captured the hearts of basketball fans from coast to coast with their hard work, down-to-earth personalities, and belief in themselves.

The Utah Jazz story has been filled with many years of strength building and even some challenges. In 1979, a struggling NBA basketball franchise pulled up its stakes and moved from New Orleans to what is the smallest market in the National Basketball Association, Salt Lake City, UT. The Jazz have built their program slowly but surely thanks to the big shoulders of some very good people.

Jazz owner Larry H. Miller had the determination and the vision to know what it could mean for Utah to have its

own NBA basketball team. Larry is more than an owner. His players are his family. His love and enthusiasm for his Utah Jazz team is infectious. Utah has been greatly rewarded through Larry's leadership and commitment.

Former coach and current team president, Frank Laydenn has been the Utah Jazz' all-time best cheerleader. Frank has always believed in his team. He has won over many fans through his enthusiasm, humor, and love for the game.

Coach Jerry Sloan is an example of leadership and fortitude. His motto to "never give up," is evident in the guts and determination his players show on the basketball court. Jerry not only teaches his players good basketball skills, he also builds character. He has instilled his own hardwork ethic into every aspect of the Utah Jazz.

John Stockton, the all-time NBA assist and steals leader, has displayed time and time again courage under pressure, and an absolute belief that "we could win." The success he has enjoyed has not detracted from his thoughtful, unassuming manner. He is indeed a worthy role model for many young people today.

And who else has displayed more utter conviction than league MVP, Karl Malone. Karl has provided the Utah Jazz with leadership and valor. Anyone who has followed the Utah Jazz knows how valuable Karl is to the team's overall scoring and rebounding capabilities. Aside from his on-court presence, Karl has been an outstanding ambassador for the NBA. His reputation of honesty and hard work has made him one of the greatest role models in professional sports.

Not only am I proud of the Utah Jazz for winning the Western Conference Championship, I am even more proud of the high caliber of individuals that make up the Utah Jazz. Our team is willing to work hard, to believe in themselves, to reflect the values of the community in which they play, and to never give up. I am proud of the way they represent our State and its fans.

I am sure that all Utahns would be happy to join with me in saying a big thank you to all of the players on the Jazz, as well as the coaches and management staff for all you have done for Utah—both on and off the court. The Utah Jazz united the people of our great State in a way that has not been equaled since Brigham Young led the covered wagons into the Salt Lake Valley. Citizens from all over our State, and from all walks of life, have united together behind one single entity—the Utah Jazz. This is an accomplishment all its own. The enthusiasm Utahns felt for their team was electric and awe-inspiring. Everyone who has ever felt like an underdog has embraced this team and gloried in its success.

Mr. President, although we didn't bring home the ultimate trophy, our Utah Jazz gave us a season to remember. This team has done us all proud, and we are proud of them. So, here's